

Red Clay State Historic Park



"The Blue Hole" Spring

FACILITIES

- James F. Corn Interpretive Center
- Replica of a Cherokee Council House and Farmstead
- Amphitheater
- Picnic Shelter

ACTIVITIES

- Hiking
- Picnicking

SPECIAL EVENTS

- Cherokee Days of Recognition - Aug.
- Nillie Bipper Arts & Craft Festival - Oct.
- 19th Century Cherokee Christmas - December

Toll Free Info:
1-888-TN PARKS

www.tnstateparks.com

Red Clay State Historic Park encompasses 263 acres of narrow valleys and forested ridges that average 200 feet or more above the valley floor. The site contains a natural landmark, the great council spring or blue hole, which rises from beneath a limestone ledge to form a deep pool that flows into Mill Creek, a tributary of the Conasauga and Coosa River system. The Cherokee may have chosen this site for their council meetings because of this ready source of water.

Red Clay served as the seat of the Cherokee government from 1832 until the forced removal of the Cherokee in 1838. It was the site of 11 general councils, national affairs meetings attended by up to 5,000 people. Here, Cherokee leader John Ross led the fight to keep the Cherokee's eastern lands, refusing the government's efforts to move his people to Oklahoma. Red Clay proved to be the Cherokee's last refuge- their capital in exile.

Here the Cherokee learned that they had lost their mountains, streams and valleys forever and that they would be forced to remove to Indian Territory.



From Chattanooga, on I-75, take exit 3-A (E. Brainerd Rd.) travel 8 miles East on Brainerd Rd., turn right on London Lane for 2.3 miles. Continue travelling straight on to Keith Road for .5 mile, turn left on Mt. Vernon Rd. Travel for 4 miles. Turn left on Old Apison Rd., travel for 7 miles. Turn left on Red Clay Park Road and travel 1.5 miles to park.

Access Fees may apply. Call park for details.

PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

A park naturalist is on duty throughout the summer months. A variety of planned programs and activities including guided tours, wildflower walks, nature programs, and storytelling are available.

HOURS OF OPERATION

March 1-November 30: 8:00 a.m. until sunset

December 1-February 28: 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Park closed Dec. 25. Visitor's Center closed Dec. 20-Jan. 1

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

Red Clay State Historic Park

1140 Red Clay Park Road, S.W. ● Cleveland, Tennessee 37311-8386

Phone: 423-478-0339 ● Fax: 423-614-7251

OR CONTACT

Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation

Division of State Parks ● 7th Floor, L & C Tower ● 401 Church Street

Nashville, Tennessee 37243 ● Phone: (615) 532-0001

www.tnstateparks.com



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